

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS20209

This amendment to the Idaho Hazardous Waste Act would clarify that the one commercial hazardous waste disposal facility located in Idaho (US Ecology's Grandview facility) may continue accepting low-activity radium contamination in soil from military bases and other government and commercial clean-up projects, as it has for over 10 years. While currently unregulated by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (US NRC), the NRC may potentially define this material as 'byproduct material'. Such designation would prohibit disposal of this material at the Grandview Hazardous waste disposal facility under the current definition of "restricted hazardous waste" found at 39 Idaho Code 4403 (17). The proposed amendment would specifically clarify that the facility could continue taking this waste, consistent with the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPA Act), which states that commercial hazardous waste facilities are authorized to continue accepting such waste. Furthermore, the proposed amendment would not expand the types or amount of waste that the Grandview facility can accept.

FISCAL NOTE

This amendment has a positive impact to the General Account by approximately \$100,000 per fiscal year. The Hazardous Waste Management Act imposes a tax or "tipping fee" for every ton of hazardous waste disposed of at the Grandview facility. Based on past data, it is projected that 20,000 tons of this type of waste will be disposed of at the facility per year. Applying the five dollar (\$5.00) tax per ton generates the \$100,000 estimate.

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